GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:408
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
ONGC`s DEAL WITH SUDAN
M. JAGANNATH;SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of ONGC`s deal in Sudan oilfield; and

(b) the details of blocks explored since its inception?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) : ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL), the wholly owned subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), signed the Purchas and Sale Agreement with Talisman Energy Inc., Canada on 30th October 2002 for buying the latter`s 25% stake in Greater Nile Oil Project (GNOP), Sudan, subject to consent from the Govt. of Sudan and the other Consortium Members, namely China Nationa Petroleum Company (CNPC), China, Petronas, Malaysia and Sudapet, Sudan, as well as waiver of pre-emption rights by CNPC an Petronas.

(b) : OVL was incorporated as Hydrocarbons India Pvt. Ltd. on 5 March 1965 under the Companies Act, 1956. Since its inception the company has worked chronologically in the following blocks :

1. Block in Persian Gulf, Iran (1965)

2. Western Desert, Iraq (1974)

3. Block 06.1, Vietnam (1988)

4. North Zafarana Offshore Block, Egypt (1994)

5. Block 38, Socotra Offshore, Yemen (1996)

6. Fejaj Permit, Tunisia (1995)

7 Exploration Block # 8, Iraq (2001)

8. Sakahlin-1 Project, Russia (2001)

9. Exploration Block A-1, Myanmar (2002)

10. Exploration Block NC-188 & NC-189, Libya (2002)

11. Exploration Project in South Louisiana, USA (2002)

12. Farsi Offshore Exploration Block, Iran (2002)